74-1942
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Pursuit Of Democracy

SEES OPPORTUNITIES BROADENING FOR RACE WOMEN IN CRISIS

JAN 17 1942

BY MARJORIE MCKENZIE

IN THE WAKE of war's social and economic readjustments, rides a tide of opportunity for the most exploited of all minorities, the Negro woman, the double victim of race and sex. As the war councils make it clear that the counry must plan for a long as well as difficult engagement, it becomes equally obvious that American women generally are going to have to assume tasks now familiar to their British sisters. In a Chicago conference of draft occupational advisors from 11 States, Lieut. Col. Joseph F. Battley, chief of the liason division of office of the Undersecretary of War, warned that every man fit to fight may see eventual armed service. This means, ultimately, that the only labor supply for war industry positions may be women and the men who are not acceptable to the Army and Navy.

M. McKenzie

More than a year ago Mrs. Roosevelt raised the question of drafting women for defense training, realizing that we would have to face the problem some time. The American Institute of Public Opinion, directed by Dr. George Gallup, finds that the women themselves, in the age group 21-35 years and single, are 75 per cent in favor of being drafted for wartime training. The attitude of the general public is 68 per cent in favor of conscription.

RACE WOMEN MAY GET BREAK

Apparently American white women, who are the most emancipated, luxury-surrounded women of the world, have deep reservoirs of courage and willingness to serve which have not been plumbed since the frontiers of the West closed and the suffrage amendment was passed.

JAN 17 1942

AS WHITE WOMEN are integrated into new fields of training and employment and as Negro men enter the armed forces, Negro women are going to find jobs that will lift them out of their present necessity of accepting their plight as overworked, underpaid domestics, laundry workers and farm laborers. Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Negro advisor in OPM, has already announced the possibilities as yet not fully analyzed, in defense industries for Negro women.

JAN 17 1942

OTHER CHANGES ARE POSSIBLE

The great social gains in these developments are not entirely apparent until one remembers that the Negro family in the United States is still, very largely, a matriarchy. This is a polite sociological term meaning that our family life is still in the process of growth and that the Negro man in our lower income groups has not assumed his proper responsibilities as chief provider and head of the household. Consequently, the exploited Negro woman worker, has tried to support her children on inadequate wages, with intermittent help either from her husband or a relief agency. This has meant, among other social evils, poor housing, poor health, lack of supervision and juvenile delinquency. Training and new jobs and adequate wages for our women will mean undreamed of progress in our family life.

JAN 17 1942

THERE IS ANOTHER, more subtle change this war era may crate. White women already are organized into countless volunteer units. It is in these groups that one white woman, Caroline Singer, sees a possible solution for working out democratic race relations in this country. In an article entitled, "First Things First," appearing in the December, 1941, issue of "Opportunity," Miss Singer calls upon white women to undertake the crusade against what she terms anti-Negroism, and which crusade she considers a necessary step in the moral defense of Democracy. This they can do, not by attempting to initiate a mixed society of both sexes, but by opening the doors of their organizations to Negro women.

UNITY MAY BE THE OUTCOME

JAN 17 1942

In some Civilian Defense offices, in some factories, in some hospitals and first-aid units and in some government buildings, there will be working together more Negro and white women than ever before have had face to face contacts. If this experience creates more tolerance and understanding, then white women, after the war, may return to their firesides to wield their great social and cultural power for the true realization of the ideals that their men and our men fight to preserve.

Tuskegee News
Tuskegee, Alabama

Colored Women's Federation Meets

The 44th Annual Session of The Alabama State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs held its opening meeting June 10th, 1942, at the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Selma at 3 p. m. with the president, Mrs. H. M. Gibbs, presiding. After an inspirational devotion, all the clubs represented were very enthusiastic and the pep yells and snap seemed to have gotten every one in the "Federation Spirit."

The Tuskegee Women's Club was represented at Selma session by the following ladies: Mrs. H V. Richardson, Mrs. J. A. Kennedy, Mrs. J. K. Campfield, Mrs. A. P. Mock and eight Junior girls Thomasine Floyd, Hortense Tildon Helen Dibble, Elizabeth Campbell, Rose Williamson Larice Campfield, Gwendlyn Gamillion, Margery Johnson.

At 5:30 the ladies went to Mrs A. J. Dinkins' home to an Introductory tea, which was a lovely affair. At 8:00 o'clock the welcome program sponsored by the Selma ladies, was full of cordial welcomes. Mrs. Simpson of Ensley, Ala., presided and presented Mrs. Gibbs, the president, who was at her best with her annual welcome address.

Thursday morning at 8:30 the executive board meeting was held in the new Dinkin Memorial Chapel of Selma University with Mr. A. W. Brown, presiding. The question of clubs in City Federation and State came up and it was decided that the name of "The Federation" is to encourage group work, or clubs instead of individuals. People must cooperate with City Federation if they want recognition from the State Federation. The clause will be inserted in the constitution.

At the 10 o'clock meeting Thursday with the president, Mrs H. M. Gibbs presiding, fifty dollars and fifty cents was collected from the advisers (all men).. Mrs Dinkens, chairman of the program committee told about the program and the amount collected $130.00, and the balance left after having paid for them was $67.50.

The theme through all the meetings was "Some Conditions Meeting In Our Changing World". Some of the speakers were; Mrs Cora Conwell, Mrs. E. B. Holloway, Union Springs; Mrs. E. J. Wright, Mrs. Belsora Ward, Mrs Josephine Sheely, Miss Josephine Carroll of Talladega Ala.

Mrs. A. G. Carpenter, the daughter of the president, Mrs. H. M Gibbs, conducted community singing, which was very good.

The meeting closed Friday at 3 o'clock with the decision that the meeting will be held in Ensley, Alabama, next year. The Ensley delegation was so very cordial in their invitation to Ensley.

Columbia, S. C. State
October 18, 1942

Eau Claire WCTU Meets

The Eau Claire Woman's Christian Temperance union held a meeting Thursday afternoon at College Place Methodist church. Assembly singing of "A Charge to Keep I Have" opened the meeting, the subjects for which were "Alcohol Education" and "Star of Brotherhood." The Rev. G. H. Varn gave an inspiring devotional, using for his Scripture a part of Matthew 5, and he closed with prayer. Mildred Ann Trotter recited, "Where There Is Drink There Is Danger." The float for the Christmas parade was discussed. Mrs. Dorn announced that the Negro WCTU is making scrapbooks for patients at the Veterans' hospital. The booth at the State fair was discussed and the women were asked to serve in the booth. Mrs. Gilbert gave the "Red Letter days" of the WCTU. The medal contest was discussed and a committee appointed to plan and hold one Sunday night. October 25, in College Place Methodist church. "Bless Be the Tie" was sung by the group, and the meeting was closed with prayer by Mrs. W. M. Swindler. The November meeting will be "Roll Call." Life membership certificates were presented to Mrs. C. A. Freed and Mrs. S. W. Henry at the meeting Thursday.

SOAPBOX . . . by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

THERE IS NO WAY of getting around it—Negro women are just superior to Negro men. I guess the same thing is true as regards whites, but right now I am talking about us. Our women are more alert, militant, sacrificing and hard working, and yet they have more confining duties. Even if they don't work, their duties in the home, club meetings and church affairs add up to a rather full schedule.

Most of them do work! 47% more Negro housewives in New York City work than white. The average job offered a Negro woman ain't no bed of roses, either. Even if it's a phony part-time domestic job—the forty-hour week is kicked out the window.

I know women who get up at the crack of dawn while Bootsie is still snoring, get the kids ready for school, fix their lunch and send them on their way; fix husband's lunch and breakfast; tidy up the house, then out to work; back in time to get dinner for all, clean up the dishes and THEN FIND TIME TO WORK IN ALL KINDS OF MILITANT ORGANIZATIONS. The backbone of every militant organization is women. More of them picket, more of them boycott, and last fall more of them voted than men.

In an analysis just received from the Board of Elections, Negro women in Harlem cast more votes than Negro men. This is probably the first time this has happened in the history of the suffragette movement. If that isn't being alert, then I don't know what is.

It seems to me the hour has arrived for a strong women's organization that will cut across all lines and will include not only women's clubs, but women of mixed groups: women of our business, social and professional groups, women of political parties, trade unions, women of the church, women of the theatrical world and the women of the pressure groups.

These women would not have to follow the rut of man's divisive world. They would give impetus to the attainment of that which we so sorely need—RACIAL UNITY. Under the auspices of the Coordinating Committee women's division, plus women of many other organizations, a city-wide women's mass meeting will be held this Sunday, May 10, at 3:45 at St. James Presbyterian Church. Every Negro woman in Greater New York should be there. It will be a salute to Negro women everywhere and a public dedication for a people's victory, both at home and abroad.

The spirit of yesterday's great women—Harriett Tubman and Sojourner Truth—and the spirit of great women of today—Mary McLeod Bethune, Marian Anderson and others—must be kept alive. They can be kept alive through the solidifying of the energies, talents and resources of the women of this generation.

We inferior men salute you and say—please show us what unity of the mass and honest leadership can do.

Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

Anna L. Moore Heads New Women's Organization

In addressing an organizational meeting of Negro Women, Inc., held Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the office of the *Voice*, 210 W 125 st, Ann Hedgeman of the regional office of Civilian Defense repeatedly stressed the importance of women's organizations at this critical time. Mr. Hedgeman, principal speaker at the meeting, stated that women's organizations must make themselves heard on every question that affects their interests, for unless they become articulate it is impossible for public officials to know what they're thinking about or what they want. The officers and executive board of the organization elected were: Anna L. Moore, president of the Dunbar Housewives League, chairman; Dolly Lowther of the Laundry Workers Union, vice-chairman; Sylvia Alvees, Toussant L'Overture Club of Hunter College, secretary; and Iona Peters, Harlem Consumers Cooperative Society, treasurer.

The executive board of the organization has the following members: Georgie Williams, Harriet Tubman Club of Hunter; Hattie Brown, Washington Heights Housewives League; Grace Hunter, Dunbar Housewives League; Mrs. Bright, Children's Aid; Bessie Pane, Empire State Federation; Vivian Wenham, Harlem Hospital Nurses Assn.; Nora Hill, Baptist Education Center; Geraldine Garrett, YWCA Youth Group; Ellen Tarry, Friendship House and *Amsterdam News;* Lolita Johnson, Dining Car Waiters Auxiliary; Mary Finger, *New York Age;* Audley Moore, Greater NY Coordinating Committee for Jobs; Mrs. Claude H. Mason, Dining Car Employees Union; Mrs. Ernest Johnson, Brooklyn Housewives Group; Genevive McKinney, Brooklyn Adult Activities YWCA; Ada Jackson, PTA Brooklyn; Marcella Light, Modern Community Housewives League; Mayme B. Washington, fraternal [illegible]; Liana B. Sutton, [illegible] Church organizations. Organizers are Hattie Brown, Vivian Wenham and Mrs. Ernest Johnson. John Harmon is consultant and director of consumer education.

In accepting the office of chairman of the group, Mrs. Moore stated that she felt highly honored and hoped that she would be able to carry out the aims and plans of the organization. She stated that the enthusiasm shown by the women at the meeting would serve as a source of inspiration to her.

Harmon, secretary of the Harlem Consumer Cooperative Society, spoke of the importance of groups of women being trained in leadership in order to help organizations and individuals solve the constantly increasing consumer problems they are faced with.

Tuscaloosa, Ala., News
May 31, 1942

Negro Women Open Session

Christian Conference Starts At Stillman; Public Is Invited

The 26th Annual Christian Conference for Negro Women opened Saturday night at Stillman Institute, where the first such conference in the South was held 26 years ago. Now similar conferences are held yearly in several southern states.

The Rev. Haley Carter of Mobile will preach the opening sermon Sunday at 11 a. m. An evening vesper service will be held at 5:30 p. m., on the lawn at the institute with Mrs. Henry Mills, president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Tuscaloosa First Presbyterian church, serving as speaker.

Members of the Brown Memorial Church Auxiliary were in charge of the Saturday night service. Several Tuscaloosa negro pastors appeared on the program and special music was rendered.

Highlights of the week's evening services will be an address on Monday night by Mrs. Charles Crane on "Missions in Africa," motion pictures about the temperance movement Tuesday night, and a lecture by Dr. Clanton W. Williams of the University of Alabama faculty Wednesday night.

The conference is directed by Mrs. J. F. Witherspoon of Birmingham. Some of the faculty members are Miss Margaret Davis of the University of Alabama, Miss Ruth See, Bible instructor at Stillman Institute, and Mrs. Charles Crane of the institute. All churches and clubs in Tuscaloosa are urged to send negro delegates to the conference. Information may be secured from Mrs. A. L. Jackson or Mrs. Charles Crane at Stillman Institute.

During the same week a laboratory school for young people's workers will be held in Brown Memorial church under the auspices of the Young People's Department with headquarters in Richmond, Va. Some of the faculty members of this school are Miss Ruth See of the Stillman faculty, Miss Inez Tucker, secretary of the Tuscaloosa First Presbyterian church, Miss Crimm of Birmingham, Miss Nelle Norton of Richmond, Va., and the Rev. Charles Tyler of Stillman, director of the Young People's League of Snedecor Memorial Synod.

74-1942

Amsterdam Star-News
New York, N. Y.

First Lady To Address Negro Women

Will Be Honor Guest Of Jersey Clubs At Bordentown July 15

ATLANTIC CITY—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt will be the honored guest speaker July 15, at the first afternoon session of the New Jersey State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs at their 27th annual conference to be held at Bordentown Manual Training School, Bordentown, N. J.

Mrs. Roosevelt

The women of New Jersey are being called upon to go to Bordentown to hear Mrs. Roosevelt. This will be her first appearance in New Jersey under the auspices of a Negro group.

Mrs. Roosevelt is a fearless and gallant fighter for the equality of rights and privileges of all groups. Her courageous stand in the defense of the Negro has been unprecedented. This is a rare opportunity for New Jersey to show its appreciation of her.

Other prominent persons who are to be featured at the three-day session are: Mrs. Ada B. DeMenthe, of Mineral Springs, Texas, national president of Colored Women's Clubs; Dr. Ellen Potter, of the Department of Institutions and Agencies, Trenton; Mrs. Anna Arnold Hedgeman, of the OCD; Herbert Agar, president of Freedom House, and Adam C. Powell, councilman, all of New York.

Theme of the convention is "How Club Women Can Make Democracy Real in America."

My Day

By Eleanor Roosevelt

"New York World Telegram"

WASHINGTON, Thursday—Yesterday morning, on reaching New York City, I went to see an old friend who has been ill. I found her so much better it started the whole day off cheerfully. I left and took the train to Trenton, N. J., in the early afternoon to go to Bordentown to speak for the State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs.

The State Industrial School, where this convention was held, is on a really beautiful site. The big trees shade the lawns and buildings, and you look straight down the Delaware River. The day could not have been lovelier, so the exercises were held out of doors.

I was happy to see my friend, Mrs. Lewis Thompson, and Commissioner Ellis in the audience. It was nice also to see Mrs. Maddox of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, who spoke on the program.

* * *

I had a good many appointments this morning, so I have been busy, for I am going back to New York City this afternoon to attend an International Student Service executive committee meeting this evening.

New York, N.Y.

I hope that you all read the Vice President's article last Sunday. He brought up a subject which all of us need to consider. What we do now and in the next few years will mean building for peace or building for another war.

It seems to me that all of us should understand that rubber is just one of the many things which are important to the rest of the world as well as to us. These will decide our future relationships with the rest of the world. If we allow ourselves, because of the interests of any particular group in our country, to be inveigled into doing such things as putting tariffs on certain types of products in order that we can carry on an international production at a high cost we will add to our own cost of living.

It is enlightened selfishness to build up the ability of other nations to a higher standard of living. We thus produce wider markets for ourselves as well as the rest of the world.

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
September 4, 1942

Worthy Project For Negro Women

Editor The Times:

A pamphlet came into my hands today about the recreational center called the Melrose Park clubhouse, project of the City Federation of Colored Women's clubs. $2,000 of the $16,000 it has cost being raised by the women themselves, $6,000 donated by Dr. Charles Lauffer and other friends, leaving a $5,000 mortgage for 10 years, besides a temporary loan of $3,000 to meet.

It struck me that some of us might be as ignorant as I was about this fine project to advance the civic education and to give recreational facilities to our colored population and would like to show their practical interest and sympathy by donating toward the wiping out of this $3,000 debt.

It was only about 60 years ago that women were jeered at for the idea of having clubs but see the tremendous influence they have been for good, advancing culture and education, until now they are a real power in the land.

The Colored Women's clubs can have that same influence on their race and it is up to us to help them all we can.

Slowly but surely the position of the negro is being advanced and the higher the degree attained the greater asset he is to his country, so we are doing a patriotic service to help in that advancement.

The Army plans to have a ratio of 10 per cent negroes—which corresponds with population figures—negro officer candidates are interspersed in most officer training schools, receiving exactly the same training, housing and feeding as white soldiers and their performance is regarded as highly satisfactory. The Navy accepts negro volunteers as reservists and has also opened to them the doors of the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard.

The training school for combat pilots has demonstrated that the negro race could contribute much more to the air service. Certain industries, notably aviation, steel shipbuilding and munitions, are successfully employing negro labor.

There are half a million skilled workers and about 3,000 graduate yearly from schools of higher learning. It was proved years ago that these negro workers can work harmoniously with white men.

Any action of ours that demonstrates that we sincerely wish that all the benefits of our democratic way of life shall be shared by all, white and colored alike, unifies us into an irresistible strength with which to face our enemies, who are quick to seize on any loophole to bring disunity amongst us.

We have seen what good use the Japanese have made of the resentment felt in India and Burma against British rule. The day after Cleo Wright was lynched at Sikeston, Mo., on Jan. 25 the news was broadcast to all Asiatics, purporting that that was how Americans felt towards the colored peoples.

On March 15, 1942, Americans heard an English language broadcast from Manchukuo which said "Democracy as preached by Anglo-Americans may be an ideal and noble system of life, but democracy as practiced by Anglo-Americans is stained with the bloody guilt of racial persecution and exploitation."

Let us draw together in every way possible so that there shall be no loopholes left for our enemies to snipe through.

The treasurer of the Melrose Park Club house is Mrs. A. B. Thompson, 209 Fifteenth street south.

MARGARET BEAZLEY,
Member, Council for Democracy,
3755 Thirtieth Avenue south.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
November 16, 1942

FCWC TO MEET

The Federation of Colored Womens Clubs will meet at 7 p. m. Thursday at the Colored Library, East Vine Avenue. A report on the financial drive will be given, and Mrs. Pauline Bradley, president, urges all friends and members to be present.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Rogers Says:-

BY J. A. ROGERS

SOME interesting letters have come to me regarding "Your History." Three descendant of Andrew J. Beard, the inventor of a railroad car-coupling device, wish to know mor about him. Others have written to remind m that Grover Cleveland wasn't in the Whit House in 1904 and that he couldn't have written the letter to the press boasting that h had never eaten with a Negro from there. True. The letter was written after he had left the White House, and while he still had political ambitions. He, like every other President since Theodore Roosevelt and perhaps Calvin Coolidge and McKinley wooed the Southern vote. Incidentally Cleveland was so scored by the more liberal white Northern papers for this letter that he seemed to have repented. Later one reads of him being rather frequently at Negro gatherings.

Mr. Rogers

ROYAL FAMILY HAS NEGRO FEATURES

As regards Frederick J. Loudin the celebrated singer, Mrs. Leola F. Turner, writes that she was delighted to read the sketch of him. He gave her her musical education, she said, and "I was his accompanist when he circled the globe." Also, that her husband, Dr. A. L. Turner, now of Detroit, was his physician in his last illness.

ALLEN J. LUCAS of Albany, N. Y., writes that he has been looking at portraits of the Hapsburgs, noted royal family of Europe, and he was struck by "the Negroid appearance of some of its earlier members, most of all Leopold I, King of Germany, Hungary and Bohemia, 1640-1705." The latter's portrait, he says, "is most emphatically that of a Negro. I checked several of his ancestors and descendants and several had similar Negroid traits, but not as pronounced as his. At that time the Austrian and Spanish Hapsburgs were very closely united." Mr. Lucas wishes to know if I have mentioned him in "Your History."

OCT 24 1942

WHITE "CREOLES" MONOPOLIZE WORD

No. But readers of my earlier travel articles might recall that I mentioned the very apparent Negroid strain in the Hapsburgs in a series of articles sent from Spain in 1932. I cannot go into the matter here, but those who care to look into "Sex and Race In The Old World" (Vol. I), will read of the Negro strain in several of the royal families of Europe and how it got there.

MANY RACE WOMEN PLAYED UNBELIEVABLE PARTS IN "YOUR HISTORY"

OCT 24 1942

PFC. Preston Davis, Camp Gordon, Ga., wants to hear something more about the origin of the word "Creole," which appeared in "Your History" two weeks ago. However, when you touch that word you are handling dynamite, because the creole whites, or at least those who believe themselves to be white, especially in New Orleans, try to monopolize the word and strongly insist that it is wrong to call Negroes "creole." Well, Blumenbach, the first great anthropologist, who was quite different from the hirelings of that species today, says that the word originated among the Negroes of Peru in the 16th century, who called their children born in the New World by that name. He cites as his authority Garcilasso, a 17th century historian, and author of the famous "Del Origen de los Incas," (Blumenbach, J. F. Anthropological Treatise, p. 215. 1865). Sorry, I can't go more into this subject here.

OCT 24 1942

MAMIE PLEASANT

A number of readers also want to hear more about Mamie Pleasant, who was said to have given John Brown $30,000 to finance his attack on Harper's Ferry, and whose sketch appeared in "Your History" a few months ago. Well, the story of Mamie Pleasant is so amazing, at least, I know it will be to those whites and Negroes who have the usual notions of what the Negro is supposed to have always been in America, that I hesitate to tell it, because I will be taken by such for a first-class liar.

MAMIE PLEASANT'S dealings with John Brown—her proudest boast was that she was "a friend of John Brown" and wanted to have the same carved on her tombstone—was, in reality, a minor incident in her most astonishing career, because she was one of the most powerful figures in San Francisco in the 1860's to the early 1890's, and certainly the most feared in certain quarters. Immensely wealthy, with millions of dollars at her command, she fought U. S. Senator William E. Sharon of "Comstock Lodge" fame, then the richest man in America, in the courts for several years and won, though the decision was later reversed by an allegedly corrupt judge. This was the celebrated "Rose of Sharon" case that rocked San Francisco society in the 1880's.

A FIGURE OF MYSTERY

Mamie Pleasant, or Pleasaunce, was a native of New Orleans. She started, it is said, as "a conjure woman," and worked her way into the confidences of several of the richest and most socially prominent families. Among the latter was that of Colonel Bell, a multi-millionaire, whose household she dominated. Certain writers claim that she knew so much of the secrets of these families that she blackmailed them.

NEVILLE, a white socialite, who knew her well, says in part of her. "She was one of our figures of mystery, a shrewd old Negress, who hade a fortune in mining stocks and gained a neat profit on the side from the sale of love charms to enterprising young ladies desirous of the favor of wealthy gentlemen. But her reticence concerning her affairs was complete. She was the despair of cross-examiners. . ." (The Fantastic City, p. 126. 1932).

OCT 24 1942

"THE AMERICAN CLEOPATRA"

I can go on to shock the unbelievers even more by saying that there were other Negro women of the times equally astonishing. For instance, Mrs. Lydia Smith, "housekeeper" of Thaddeus Stevens, the most dynamic and terrible figure of the Reconstruction period; and Hannah Ellas, "The American Cleopatra," to whom white men gave millions of dollars, three fine homes in New York, and over whom New York's most prominent white citizen was shot and killed.

SKETCHES of these two remarkable women, who were of quite different calibre, with their portraits, are in my new book, "Sex and Race In the New World," which is just off the press. However, that of Mamie Pleasant has been omitted because most of the accounts I have so far found of her are, in my opinion, biased. One instance is "True Detective Mysteries," April 1940, in its story of the Rose of Sharon case. I am, therefore, asking those of my California readers or others who have the facts, or knew Mamie Pleasant—she died in 1940—kindly to send them to me and where I can get a good picture of her. Earl Conrad had an excellent article about her and her friendship with John Brown in the Negro Digest about two years ago.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN

OCT 24 1942

From October 15 to 17 the National Council of the Negro Women meets here in Chicago. We extend our heartiest and warmest greetings to these women. We wish for them a great success in formulating their program and offer our humble aid to them in any way they may deem of value.

For Negro women this war has many far-reaching lessons. Women are being drawn into industry by the millions. All of them meet with opposition and resentment but Negro women find the utmost difficulties. Many employers do not want them because they do not want Negro-white unity. Many workers are incited against them by employers who play upon the prejudices upon which these white workers have for so long been fed.

All this must be relentlessly fought. The Council meets during a war in which Negroes can win their citizenship rights as human beings. These rights must be fought for as a necessary war measure. America must use all of its labor power, Negro women included.

The armed forces must use Negro women wherever white women are employed. Negro men must seek through their unions to fight any obstacle presented to the induction of Negro women into industry. These are war questions. They cannot be avoided.

The Council should take a stand on the winning of the war itself. The question of a Second Front is no far-off military issue. It is of the most intimate importance to Negro women. A long war will mean the loss of thousands more of their sons. A long war will extend the power and activity of the defeatists, the Negro baiters and the lynchers.

OCT 24 1942

The Council's meeting must be one continuous political session which opens and sharpens the political thinking of Negro women. Negro women should learn how Soviet women are playing a leading role in the struggle for world democracy. Undoubtedly Negro women have learned great lessons from this war. Let them advance to the front and speak. We will listen.

74-1942
Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Lynching Target Of National Body

OCT 30 1942

OCT 30 1942

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Pledging dynamic participation in the war effort and complete support of defense programs toward the end that, through an allied victory, peace, justice, freedom and brotherhood shall prevail in the world the National Council of Negro Women meeting here last week established a seven-point program for the execution of its work during the most critical year of its existence. The council, holding a three-day workship during its annual conference, considered the role of the Negro women in the war effort and in post-war reconstruction.

Negro women, as willing to serve their country as Negro men, should not be restricted and limited in training and assignments as they are now, the council declared, and further urged abolishment of the discriminatory policies of the WAVES and the WAFS on the grounds that Negro men are not assigned to positions in the navy which could be be given over to Negro women.

DEPLORE ATROCITY

The lynching of two 14-year-old Negro children in Mississippi was held an atrocity which demands action on the part of every member of the council. It was decided to call upon the President and the supreme court to take immediate action, to send the governor of Mississippi a telegram denouncing the crime and demanding a thorough investigation to the end that all persons responsible be brought to trial and punished, and each council member agreed to attend community mass meetings to protest the barbarous crime.

OCT 30 1942

Speedy passage of anti-lynching and anti-poll tax legislation was urged, and support of the programs of Walter White and the NAACP, as well as of A. Philip Randolph, labor leader, was voiced.

Continuation of the NYA and other educational facilities was advocated, while plans for a nation-wide adult education program promoted by metropolitan chapters of the council within the next three months to disseminate information on training and employment opportunities now available were established.

WOULD PROBE CAMPS

A recommendation for the appointment of a national committee with the adequate representation of Negro women to investigate the condition and morale of men in the camps of the country followed.

The National Council of Negro Women went on record as opposing the Dies committee and as being willing to join forces with any organization or individuals working toward the committee's banishment from the American scene. Defamation of the council's distinguished president, Mary McLeod Bethune, by the Dies' group was an unwarranted and malicious attack, the organization declared.

Reaffirming their belief in democracy and in the sincere efforts being made by many to make democracy work in America, the council paid special tribute to President and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, to Mary McLeod Bethune, for her untiring work in interracial relations, and to the California Shipbuilding Company which recently launched the Booker T. Washington, first liberty ship to be named for a Negro.

Mrs. Roosevelt was described a "shining symbol of democracy and justice," and gratitude was expressed for the First Lady's day to day demonstration of her principles.

OCT 30 1942

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 29, 1942

Women To Confer In Atlanta On Soldier Life And Problems

Seven Southern States To Be Represented In New Type Conference

Colonels and majors and Waacs will chat with mothers and wives and sisters in Atlanta, Thursday, Dec. 10, all about the personal lives and problems of American soldiers throughout the world.

In a new type of war conference—one to tell women at home what's going on at the front—representatives of 34 national women's organizations from seven Southern states have been summoned by the Army's Fourth Service Command to attend an all-day confab at command headquarters in Atlanta.

Presiding will be dignified, attractive Mrs. Emily Newell Blair, who comes in her position as chief of the women's interests section of the War Department's Bureau of Public Relations to direct the first regional conference south of the Mason and Dixon line.

Similar conferences have been led this Fall by Mrs. Blair in several Eastern and Western Army service commands.

Leaders in club, church, war and welfare work, whose organizations are members of the advisory council to the women's interests section, will attend the Atlanta meeting and bring home firsthand information about the Army, its problems and the ways in which women may cooperate in meeting these problems.

State presidents or other state leaders of each of the 34 member organizations have been invited to the exclusive conference, which limits its invitations to one representative from each group.

A session, beginning at 10 a.m., will feature "off - the - record" speeches by Army officials about the soldier's life.

* * *

MAJ. GEN WILLIAM BRYDEN, commanding general of the Fourth Service Command, will welcome the women, after opening of the conference by Mrs. Blair.

Importance of the fool-ranking soldier in global warfare will be the theme of a speech by Col. Faulkner Heard, of Washington, assistant to the director for the Army Ground Forces, Bureau of Public Relations, War Department.

Speakers will also present medical and religious phases of the soldier's life from the viewpoint of the offices of the surgeon-general and the chaplain of the Fourth Service Command.

Facts about the present recruiting drive of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps will be presented by a speaker from that branch of the Army, and the American Red Cross will have a report on its special Army activities.

The Army wife, too, will come in for her share of attention in the speech of Mrs. George S. Patton, wife of Maj. Gen. Patton, now in command of American forces in Morocco.

Mrs. Patton, who became an Army bride 32 years ago, is now living in Washington.

Following adjournment for luncheon, club women will conduct a round table, with Mrs. Blair presiding, to resolve ways and means to cooperate with the Army on matters presented in the morning session.

One representative from each of the following organizations in Alabama—member organizations of the Advisory Council to the women's interests section of the War Department Bureau of Public Relations—will be invited to the conference:

American Red Cross, American Association of University Women, American Federation of Women's Auxiliaries of Labor, American Legion Auxiliary, American Social Hygiene Association, American Women's Voluntary Services, Army Relief Society, Association of Junior Leagues of America, Association of Women of American Farm Bureau Federation, National Council of Negro Women, Inc., National Council of State Garden Clubs, National Council of Women in the U. S., Inc., National Education Association, National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, National Panhellenic Congress, National Society Daughters of American Revolution, National Travelers Aid Association, B'nai B'rith, The Garden Clubs of America, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Jewish Welfare Board, Ladies Auxiliary to Veterans of Foreign Wars, National Catholic Community Service, National Committee on Cause and Cure of War, National Council of Catholic Women, National Conference of Christians and Jews, National Council of Jewish Women, National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, National Women's Trade Union League, The Salvation Army, United Daughters of the Confederacy, United Council of Church Women, (USO) Army and Navy committee, Y. M. C. A., Young Women's Christian Association.

TO LEAD WOMEN—Chief of the women's interests section of the Bureau of Public Relations of the War Department is Mrs. Emily Newell Blair (above), who will be presiding officer Dec. 10 at the first Southern regional conference of clubwomen for discussion of life and problems of the average American soldier. Sponsored by the Fourth Service Command, the conference will take place in Atlanta.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
November 20, 1942

NEGRO CHURCH WOMEN TO HOLD MEETING HERE

A one-day Christian conference for Negro women of the city will be held on Sunday afternoon at the Davie Street Presbyterian Church. Registration will begin at 2:30, and the program at 3 o'cock.

The Rev. A. S. Powe, pastor of the church, will give the invocation, and Mrs. Ethel Young, president of the Missionary Society of the Davie Street Church, will extend greetings. The Bible hour will be conducted by Mrs. Carl M. Townsend, wife of the pastor of the Mayes Barton Baptist Church, and her subject will be "Witnessing for Christ in a World at War." Mrs. Alex Yergan, dean of women at Shaw University, will speak on "The Place of the Christian Home in a World at War."

A group of Negro spirituals and favorite songs of service men will be led by Ruth Stuart, religious director of the First Vanguard and the North Vanguard Presbyterian churches of Raleigh.

Mrs. George U. Baucom, Mrs. James T. Maddrey, and Mrs. W. C. Pressly are in charge of arrangements for the meeting and Mrs. Pressly will preside. All Negro congregations of the city are invited to attend this program.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
November [illegible], 1942

RALEIGH NEGRO WOMEN TO HOLD ONE-DAY MEET

Shaw University Dean of Women to Speak to Christian Conference Today

Negro women of Raleigh will meet this afternoon for a one-day Christian conference at the Davie Street Presbyterian Church. Registration will begin at 2:30, and the program will begin at 3 o'clock.

Mrs. Alex Yergan, dean of women at Shaw University, will speak on "The Place of the Christian Home in a World at War." The Bible hour will be conducted by Mrs. Carl M. Townsend, wife of the pastor of the Mayes Barton Baptist Church, on the subject "Witnessing for Christ in a World at War."

The Rev. A. S. Powe, pastor of the Davie Street Church, will give the invocation, and Mrs. Ethel Young, president of the Davie Street Missionary Society, will extend greetings.

A group of Negro spirituals and favorite songs of service men will be led by Ruth Stuart, religious director of the First Vanguard and North Vanguard Presbyterian churches of Raleigh.

Mrs. George U. Baucom, Mrs. James T. Maddrey, and Mrs. W. C. Pressly are in charge of arrangements for the meeting. Mrs. Pressly will preside.

All Negro congregations of Raleigh are invited to attend.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, PA.

Mrs. Bethune Calls For "United Action" And Gets It At Workshop

OCT 24 1942

By BESS HOLLOWAY
Assistant Woman's Editor

CHICAGO, Ill., Oct. 22—The National Council of Negro Women has been stripped of its glamour and has been geared into action to serve as a clearing house for scores of community clubs, sororities and other organizations made up of Negro personnel.

The three-day Worshop of The Council "streamlined" the whole structure and program of the national body into a workable, dynamic force to insure full participation of the Negro on all front in the fight for victory of the United Nations.

OCT 24 1942

For three days the forty-odd delegates, led by dynamic, lovable, gracious Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the NCNW, worked tirelessly and ceaselessly to make the Council Workshop the greatest meeting of its kind ever held. A spirit of unity and vigilance prevailed at all of the sessions.

MRS. BETHUNE ILL, BUT MAKES DAILY APPEARANCE

Despite the fact that twenty minutes before the first meeting was scheduled to open, Mrs. Bethune was being attended by Dr. Dove, a leading woman physician of Chicago, that great lady, whose untiring efforts to aid Negroes are known and recognized all over the country, had such a strong will and determination to do a job that she shook off impending illness and greeted the early arrivals at the Southside Community Art Center where the sessions were held.

After arriving Thursday morning at the Center, Mrs. Bethune, diplomatic, strong willed, judicious, took the chair. She is the very epitome of the finest in leadership. It was amazing to see her arrive at the Center early every morning and sit through the morning and afternoon sessions without taking time out for rest or refreshments.

OCT 24 1942

WORKSHOP IDEA PROVES MORE THAN SUCCESSFUL

The Workshop idea conceived by the president and founder of the NCNW, Mrs. Bethune, proved more than successful. Because of present war conditions, the difficulty in getting traveling accommodations, the inadvisability of holding large conventions, Mrs. Bethune decided to on a Workshop with members of the Executive Board of the National Council of Negro Women meeting to plan a '42-'43 program.

"These are critical and unusual days," Mrs. Bethune told the Council delegates, "the days of united thinking, united purpose and united action."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

COLLECT FARES ON MANY MAIN CITY STREETS

DEC 12 1942

City System Breaks Precedent In Jobs To Negro Women

Dec. 12, 1942

DETROIT—(ANP)—While management in most of the industrial plants in this area steadfastly refuse to employ Negro women, skilled or unskilled, the Detroit Street Railway system has perhaps the first street railway system in the country to employ Negro women as conductors.

DEC 12 1942

The city-owned system broke the ice by putting on Negro men as conductors several months ago due to a shortage of white eligibles, who could acquire jobs in war plants when Negro men were being refused.

The men made good from the start and now there are more than 700 motormen, conductors and bus operators in the service.

Still feeling the shortage of man power, the company turned to white and Negro women. They are being placed on many of the city's main arteries and are making good, in the capacity of conductors.

Columbia S. C. State
December 19, 1942

HAS MADE HER MARK

From Daytona Beach comes word through an Associated Press dispatch that Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, founder and for 31 years president of the Bethune-Cookman college in that city, has resigned.

She is to be president emeritus but the title is, she said, purely honorary as she would have no further direct connection with the administration of this well known Negro institution. She is now 66 years old. She has earned a rest from the arduous duties and responsibilities that have been hers for so long but she is not to retire from active life. She is still director of the Negro division of the NYA and she has some future plans which involve organization work for members of her race in Australia, China and England.

Doctor Bethune has made a record of which her native state of South Carolina may well be proud. While she has not had the field so much to herself, as did Booker T. Washington, her work as a woman educator is comparable to his. She has been interested in the advancement of her race and like him she has kept her feet on the ground and has kept before herself always the idea that progress, if it is to last, must be on a sound basis.

Doctor Bethune was born in Sumter county, near Mayesville. At 35 years of age she established the college which bears her name. She is one of the leading Negro women of America and has been a decidedly good influence not only upon her own people—both as teacher and as example—but as a level-headed participant in better relations between the races.

74-1942
Peoples Voice
New York, N. Y.

California

Los Angeles Realtors Bar Negro Residents

OCT 17 1942

OCT 17 1942

Extra

LOS ANGELES.—When *The Broadcaster* of September 18, a local newssheet dedicated to "Promoting Southwest's Welfare —Defending Southwest's Rights," carried an announcement that the regular weekly meeting of the southwest branch of the Los Angeles Realty Board would hear Atty. William C. Bartlett, "who has just won an important case involving race restrictions," and that B. M. Johnson, *race restrictions chairman of the Board*, would bring "files and restriction books that members may check the exact status of the tracts in which they are conducting business," *PV* set out to learn more about the realty board's race restrictions work.

A reporter obtained an appointment with Chairman B. M. Johnson, who deals in sales, rentals, exchanges, insurance, loans and race restrictions.

He understood that we had come "to chat" about his work as race restrictions chairman. He learned that we were new in the city, were interested in property and "safeguards"—a word requiring no further elaboration for Johnson. OCT 17 1942

Chattily he told *PV's* reporter that as a property owner himself he had become interested in the matter of race restrictions on property, a matter he had been in engaged in for a number of years. He is the only one, he bragged, who has *complete files* on tracts covering thousands upon thousands of properties. *He does this work for the Los Angeles Realty Board.* He proudly showed sample file cards, upon which are listed property owners, with names and addresses *typed*, but *in ink on each card* the word YES (meaning race restrictions) and the date upon which restrictions began, or NO (meaning no restrictions).

Getting New Race Restrictions

Johnson obligingly explained how he has gone about the task of having race restrictions imposed. As an example, a race restrictions clause had given out on one group of properties in 1935. In 1939, he had solicitors check every single property in the area, getting owners to sign individually an AGREEMENT IMPOSING RESTRICTIONS, which says, in part: OCT 17 1942

"The undersigned, as owners . . . in consideration of the mutual benefits to said parties and their respective properties, do hereby bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns that no part of any real estate hereinafter described shall ever at any time be used or occupied by any person or persons not wholly of the white or Caucasian race. . . ."

"Further, the AGREEMENT says **that "if and when any part or portion** of said real estate is legally zoned for business purposes, it may be used by persons other than the African or Negro race or blood when actually conducting business thereon but shall not be used by such persons for residence, but this limitation shall not extend to persons of the white or Caucasian race." OCT 17 1942

Brokers thruout LA are more or less bound by the title companies not to sell to Negroes in these restricted areas, Johnson declared, "but if a broker does, *just to make a dollar*, and there *are* some unethical brokers" (i.e., who believe that the Negro *has* the right to live *anywhere*—Ed.), the title companies can prevent the sale.

The law, he asserted, protects this endeavor—partly. How? *The title companies promised that they could get restrictions imposed again if a majority of the owners signed up*, and a majority did. The minority who wouldn't sign, Johnson said, were people who were "either away, or afraid they might have to sell quickly, or just don't like to sign anything." When Johnson referred to the law's being partly on the side of the board, he indicated that there might be some "trouble" if an owner who hadn't signed the AGREEMENT wanted to sell to Negroes. "But I think the courts would uphold us—certainly if we had a capable lawyer like Bartlett." OCT 17 1942

Altho Johnson claimed that he did not get a penny for his work on race restrictions, prominently displayed on the walls of his office was a framed and elaborately printed document signed by Steves, chairman, and Freers, secretary, proclaiming Johnson an "outstanding member for the year 1941 . . . did most for the progress and betterment of the Southwest Branch of the LA Realty Board."

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
DEC 19 1942

War Plant Seeks 25 Women, 18-35

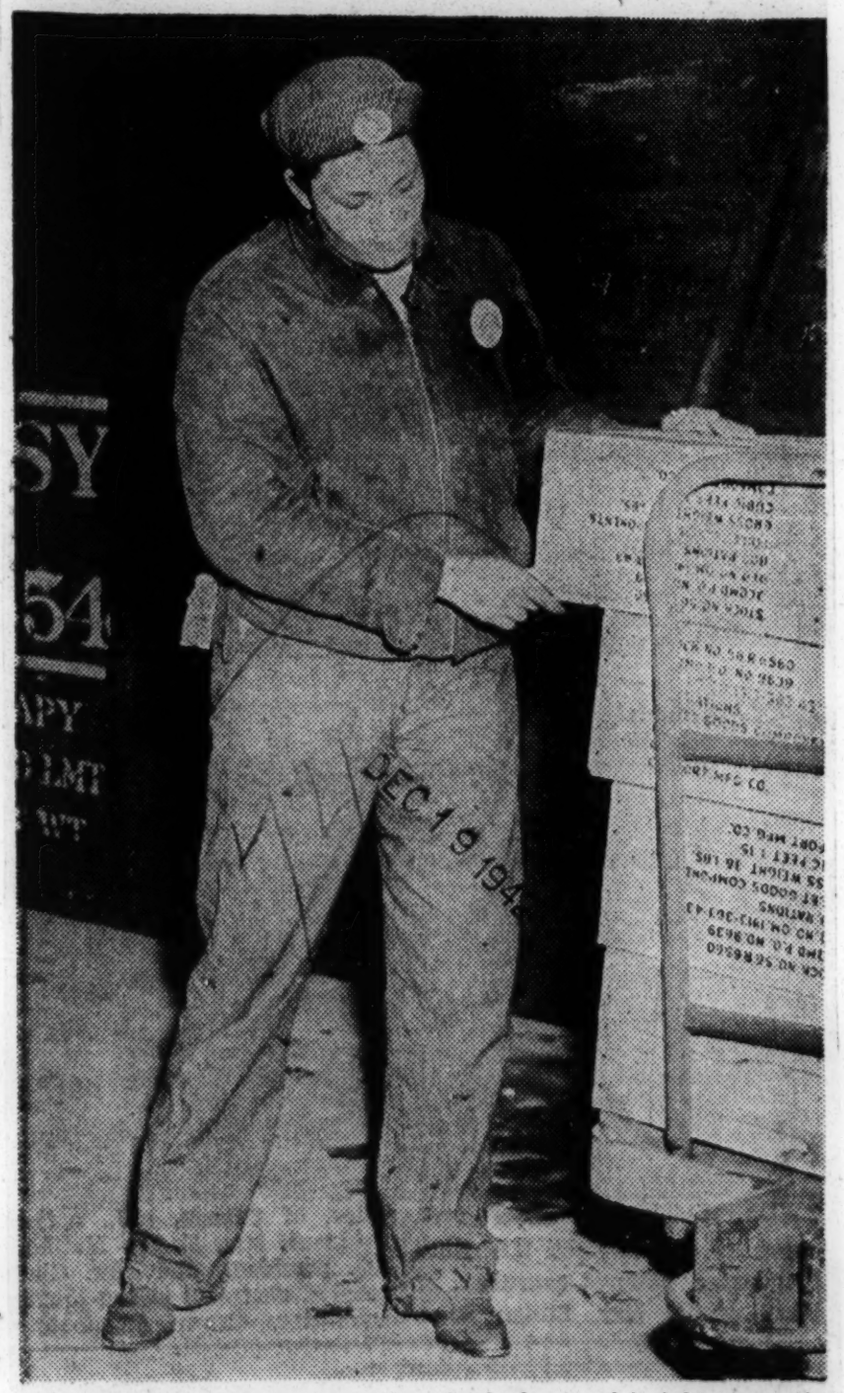
BALTIMORE.—A large local war firm is seeking twenty-five women between the ages of 18 and 35 to learn machine operation for which they will be paid sixty-six cents an hour wnile learning.

Following the initial training period, the workers will be employed on a permanent basis at higher salary. High school graduates are preferred but applicants with tenth grade schooling will be accepted. DEC 19 1942

Application should be made at the Vocational Defense Training Center No. 456 at 1315 Druid Hill Avenue.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Girls Behind the Guns



A woman crew foreman at the New Cumberland Quartermaster Depot, New Cumberland, Pa., checks boxes of freight to see that they are properly stacked on a four-wheel truck for moving.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.

Has Record of 30 Years

Mrs. Edna Rawlings, cashier and employee of longest record, being awarded a thirty-year service pin by D. Arnett Murphy, vice-president of the AFRO, at its twenty-first annual dinner held Saturday at Morgan Christian Center. Bonuses and special awards were made to employees, including those men serving in the armed forces. Twenty other employees also received service pins.